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Patent #5

Attorney's Docket No. 10015158-1

9/26/03

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Steven W. TROVINGER) Group Art Unit: 3721
Application No.: 10/084,459) Examiner: S. Tawfik
Filed: February 28, 2002) Confirmation No.: 4978
For: SYSTEM FOR HANDLING)
FOLDED SHEET MATERIAL)

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement forwarded by the Official Action dated August 21, 2003, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Group 1, claims 1-6 and 14, drawn to a system for handling folded sheets material. This election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-14 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group would necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining groups. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be performed without serious burden. MPEP §803 clearly states that "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on its merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application

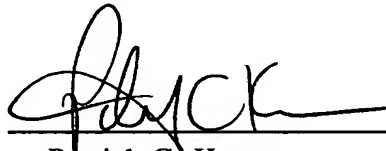
in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to the Applicant in duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the Restriction Requirement and to examine all the claims in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: _____



Patrick C. Keane
Registration No. 32,858

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

Date: September 17, 2003

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Steven W. TROVINGER

Application No.: 10/084,459

Filing Date: Feb. 28, 2002

Title: SYSTEM FOR HANDLING FOLDED SHEET MATERIAL

Confirmation No.: 4978

Examiner: S. Tawfik

Group Art Unit: 3721

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

- (X) Response/Amendment () Petition to extend time to respond
() New fee as calculated below () Supplemental Declaration
(X) No additional fee (Address envelope to "Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment")
(X) Other: Information Disclosure Statement (fee \$)

CLAIMS AS AMENDED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY						
(1) FOR	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEES
TOTAL CLAIMS		MINUS		= 0	X \$18	\$ 0
INDEP. CLAIMS		MINUS		= 0	X \$84	\$ 0
[] FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					+ \$280	\$ 0
EXTENSION FEE	1ST MONTH \$110.00	2ND MONTH \$410.00	3RD MONTH \$930.00	4TH MONTH \$1450.00		\$ 0
OTHER FEES						\$
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$ 0

Charge \$ 0 to Deposit Account 08-2025. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 08-2025 under 37 CFR 1.16 through 1.21 inclusive, and any other sections in Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations that may regulate fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven W. TROVINGER

By

Patrick C. Keane

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 32,858

Date: Sep. 17, 2003

Date: 9/17/03

I hereby certify that this document is being filed by personal delivery to the Customer Service Window, Crystal Plaza 2, 2011 South Clark Place, Arlington Virginia, of the United States Patent & Trademark Office on the date indicated above.

By:

Patrick C. Keane Reg. No. 32,858
(Attorney Signature and Reg. No.)

Telephone No.: (703) 836-6620